

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the pending claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An X-ray imaging apparatus comprising:
 a plurality of X-ray tubes comprising a first X-ray tube production means for producing X-rays from a plurality of sources and a second X-ray tube for producing X-rays from a plurality of sources wherein the first X-ray tube and second X-ray tube are adjacent each other and sources are spaced from each other by a source spacing;
 a plurality of X-ray sensors to detect X-rays emitted from the plurality of X-ray tubes sources and passed passing through an object; and
 control means for controlling the an order in which the X-ray tubes sources are active such that the average-smallest a displacement between an active X-ray tube source in one emission period and an active X-ray tube source in a period immediately after the emission the subsequent period is greater than the source spacing.
2. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~average-smallest~~ displacement is at least twice the ~~source~~ spacing.
3. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein an active X-ray tube source position in said any one emission period is not adjacent a X-ray tube source position that is active in the the next emission period immediately after the emission period.
4. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein only one X-ray tube source position is active in each emission period.
5. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein a plurality of X-ray tube source position are active simultaneously in each emission period.
6. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein each of the X-ray tubes source positions produces X-rays for detection by at least one corresponding group of sensors, wherein during each emission period, the group of sensors are not overlapping.
7. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 6 wherein in each emission period at least half of the sensors are arranged to receive X-rays from the active X-ray tubes source positions.
8. (currently amended) The imaging apparatus of claim 7 wherein in each emission period substantially all of the sensors are arranged to receive X-rays from the active X-ray tubes source positions.
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)
12. (canceled)
13. (canceled)
14. (new) An X-ray imaging apparatus comprising:
 - a plurality of X-ray tubes, each of said X-ray tubes comprising a plurality of source positions, including a first source position and a second source position, wherein the first source position and the second source position are adjacent each other and spaced from each other by a source spacing;
 - a plurality of X-ray sensors to detect X-rays emitted from the plurality of X-ray tubes and passed through an object; and
 - a controller for controlling an order in which the X-ray source positions are active such that a displacement between an active source position in one emission period and an active source position in a period immediately after the emission period is greater than the source spacing.
15. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 14 wherein said displacement is at least twice the source spacing.
16. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 14 wherein an active source position in the emission period is not adjacent a source position that is active in the period immediately after the emission period.
17. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 14 wherein only one source position in an X-ray tube is active in each emission period.
18. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 17 wherein a plurality of X-ray tubes are active simultaneously in each emission period.
19. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 14 wherein, in each emission period, more than one source position is active and each of said active source positions is located in a different X-ray tube.
20. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 14 wherein only one source position in each X-ray tube is active in each emission period and each X-ray tube is active in a sequential order.
21. (new) The imaging apparatus of claim 14 wherein, within each X-ray tube, an order in which source positions are active is arranged such that, in each emission period, an active source position is not adjacent to a source position that was active in a period immediately preceding the emission period.